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## CURRENT LEGAL PERIODICALS AND BOOK REVIEWS.

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A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF INTERCORPORATE RELATIONS. By WALTER CHADWICK NOYES. Pp. xlviii+703. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1902.

We have here a useful hand-book for the active practitioner; a compendium clearly written, logically put together, moderately exhaustive, yet concise in statement to a most admirable degree. It cites the latest judgments on vexed questions and points of judicial authority peculiarly applicable to the recent turmoils regarding the adjustment of relations between the bodies that guide and control our business world. The author's preface is enlightening: "The modern business instrument is the corporation," and the "legal questions growing out of the relations . . . [which] corporate conjunction involves . . . furnish the subject matter of this treatise."

One part of his book has involved a "process of amplification"; namely, that part treating of the "Consolidation of Corporations" (Part I); the nature and possibilities of "Corporate Sales" (Part II); the nature and possibilities of "Corporate Leases" (Part III); and the power and authority for "Corporate Stockholding and Control" (Part IV). And it is with satisfaction that we learn and observe that the material for every chapter of the book was deemed to be of sufficient importance to warrant "a systematic examination of original sources." If for no other reason, the validity of that confession will give the book surpassing value.

The second part of the book has necessitated a process of reduction. So that in Part V (about one-third of the book), under the heading "Combinations of Corporations," there is a most difficult, if not a hopeless task attempted, viz: of reducing to a set of principles a mass of conflicting decisions, though the author (and he is a judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Connecticut) would qualify this statement by saying "apparently conflicting decisions." There is a very successful formulation of the Rules of Public Policy, made upon a basis of rules taken from eight different sorts of cases; and there is a no less successful article on "Legislation affecting Combinations." The fact that every rule and every set of cases is classified according to states, and also chronologically, adds a value to the work which no student of this momentous subject dare overlook; at the same time what commentary there is is wholly commendable for lucidity, systematic arrangement, and unmistakable care in thought and statement.

The theory of this second part of the work is said to be "that the validity of a combination depends upon considerations of public policy," expressly opposite to that underlying other treatises upon this same subject of Combinations, one of which (Mr. Eddy's) has as an underlying theory that a combination of capital, to be unlawful, must be a conspiracy. Labor combinations, however, are not within the consideration of Judge Noyes' book.

There is no undue, in fact there is remarkably little, theoretical discussion or comment upon conflicting views; the book did not demand it; the rather successful undertaking of deducing helpful principles from both legal judgments and state and federal legislation has accomplished all that the busy lawyer could demand. The desire of the lawyer is answered; he is given the fundamental principles and such theories as will reasonably reconcile a mass of unsettled doctrines. A capital index and a table of cases (there are over sixteen hundred in the book, each with its data and parallel references) facilitate the use of the book both for study and for quick information.

No book has covered this exact field of investigation in the same manner or so usefully; and though there are works of high reputation upon the numerous topics involved under the present subject, most of them have emphasized the value and possibilities of a corporation as an entity in itself, and not one of them has brought so cogently before the practitioner the real extent of relations possible between one corporation and another. The book is based upon no authorities but the original sources of the law in regard to corporations and their mutual dealings. The limitations of the work are none, except those which must naturally result where one is investigating a new realm of thought and study; every sentence is modern; every idea is rational and born of judicial reasoning. The author is to be congratulated upon having produced so far the most useful and successful book of its kind; and in every sense of the word, what he has done is wholly satisfactory.

*E. H. B.*

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A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF THE MEASURE OF DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURIES INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS ON PLEADING, EVIDENCE, AND PROVINCE OF COURT AND JURY, APPLICABLE TO THE TRIAL OF THIS CLASS OF CASES. By GEORGE P. VOORHEIS, A. B. Pp. lxxxvi+577. Norwalk, O.: The Laning Company. 1903.

Says the author in speaking of his work: "The theory upon which it is written is, conceding there is an injury for which the wrongdoer is liable, what is the measure of damages"? With this theory in view as a working basis, the author has contrib-